



**STATE OF NEW JERSEY**

**Board of Public Utilities**

**Two Gateway Center**

**Newark, NJ 07102**

**www.bpu.state.nj.us**

Customer Assistance

IN THE MATTER OF NEORLU N. TUMBEH,) )  
PETITIONER, v. PUBLIC SERVICE ) )  
ELECTRIC AND GAS COMPANY, ) )  
RESPONDENT ) )

ORDER ADOPTING  
INITIAL DECISION  
SETTLEMENT

BPU Docket No. EC05100859U

OAL Docket No. PUC 1190-06

(SERVICE LIST ATTACHED)

BY THE BOARD:

On October 7, 2005, Neorlu N. Tumbbeh (Petitioner) filed a petition with the Board of Public Utilities (Board) for a hearing in regard to a billing dispute with Public Service Electric and Gas Company (Respondent). On November 16, 2005, Respondent filed an answer.

On December 27, 2005, the Board transmitted this matter to the Office of Administrative Law (OAL) for determination and initial disposition as a contested case pursuant to N.J.S.A. 52:14B-1 et seq. and N.J.S.A. 52:14F-1 et seq. The matter was assigned to Administrative Law Judge (ALJ) Diana C. Sukovich.

During the pendency of this matter at the OAL, the parties engaged in negotiations and reached a settlement. On September 28, 2006, a Stipulation of Settlement was submitted to the ALJ for review. On December 14, 2006, ALJ Sukovich filed an Initial Decision with the Board, memorializing the terms of the Stipulation of Settlement and recommending that it be approved. The ALJ found the settlement to be voluntary, consistent with the law and fully dispositive of all issues in controversy. The ALJ therefore concluded that the Stipulation of Settlement met the requirements of N.J.A.C. 1:1-19.1.

Under the terms of the Stipulation of Settlement, Respondent agreed to credit Petitioner's account in the amount of \$1,236.00, leaving a balance due of \$3,614.95. Petitioner agreed to pay the balance in thirty-six (36) equal monthly installments of \$100.00 plus the amount of the current bill, by the first of each month, beginning with the October 2006 billing statement. Staff contacted Respondent on January 2, 2007, and Respondent's representative stated that Petitioner is adhering to the terms of the Settlement.

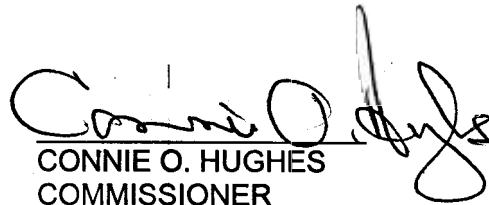
The Board FINDS that the terms of the settlement are fair and reasonable. Therefore, the Board HEREBY ADOPTS the Initial Decision and Stipulation of Settlement in their entirety, incorporating the terms thereof into this final decision as if fully set forth at length herein.

DATED: 1/17/07

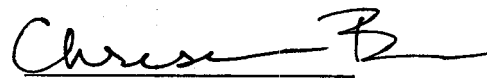
BOARD OF PUBLIC UTILITIES  
BY:

  
JEANNE M. FOX  
PRESIDENT

  
FREDERICK F. BUTLER  
COMMISSIONER

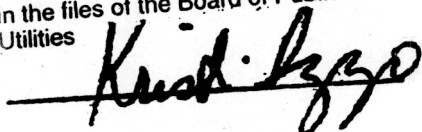
  
CONNIE O. HUGHES  
COMMISSIONER

  
JOSEPH L. FIORDALISO  
COMMISSIONER

  
CHRISTINE V. BATOR  
COMMISSIONER

ATTEST:   
KRISTI IZZO  
SECRETARY

I HEREBY CERTIFY that the within  
document is a true copy of the original  
in the files of the Board of Public  
Utilities



BPU Docket No. EC05100859U  
OAL Docket No. PUC 1190-06

Neorlu N. Tumbah v. **Public Service Electric and Gas Company**

BPU Docket No. EC05100859U  
OAL Dkt. No. PUC 1190-06

**SERVICE LIST**

Neorlu N. Tumbah  
16 Lehigh Avenue  
Newark, New Jersey 07112-2504

Edward B. Sullivan  
Manager, Regulatory Services  
Public Service Electric and Gas Company  
80 Park Place  
Newark, New Jersey 07102

Kent Papsun, Director  
Division of Customer Assistance  
Board of Public Utilities  
Two Gateway Center  
Newark, NJ 07102

Regina Conlon  
Bureau of Information Management  
Board of Public Utilities  
Two Gateway Center  
Newark, New Jersey 07102

Arlene E. Pasko, Esq.  
Department of Law and Public Safety  
Division of Law  
124 Halsey St. - 5th Floor  
Newark, NJ 07102



**State of New Jersey**  
OFFICE OF ADMINISTRATIVE LAW

**INITIAL DECISION**

**SETTLEMENT**

OAL DKT. NO. PUC 1190-06

AGENCY DKT. NO. EC05100859

RECEIVED  
CASE MANAGER  
2006 DEC 14 PM 2:54  
BOARD OF PUBLIC UTILITIES  
NEW JERSEY

CMS  
TSLOW  
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SLUTZKY  
HILARIO  
CUST. ASST. (2)

**NEORLU N. TUMBEH,**

Petitioner,

**v.**

**PUBLIC SERVICE ELECTRIC AND GAS COMPANY,**

Respondent.

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Neorlu Tumbah, petitioner, pro se

Thomas P. Thackston, Assistant General Solicitor, for respondent

Record Closed: November 1, 2006

Decided: December 11, 2006

**BEFORE: DIANA C. SUKOVICH, ALJ:**

On October 7, 2005, petitioner filed a petition, in the form of a letter dated October 3, 2005, with the Board of Public Utilities (BPU), contesting certain bills for residential service from respondent. Respondent filed an answer on November 16, 2005. The BPU transmitted the matter to the Office of Administrative Law on January 10, 2006 for determination as a contested case pursuant to N.J.S.A. 52:14F-1 to -13.

A settlement conference was conducted on February 21, 2006. Although the matter was not resolved at that time, the parties continued to discuss the matter and ultimately agreed upon a settlement. Subsequent to additional communications among this judge and the parties, a settlement agreement, in the form of a letter, dated September 28, 2006, executed by both parties, was filed on November 1, 2006, on which date the record was closed. Attached herewith is a copy of the referenced letter.

Having reviewed the settlement terms, I **FIND** that the parties have voluntarily agreed to the settlement, as evidenced by their signatures, or the signatures of their representatives, on the agreement dated September 28, 2006, and the settlement fully disposes of all issues in controversy and is consistent with the law.

Therefore, I **CONCLUDE** that the agreement meets the requirements of N.J.A.C. 17:27-19.1 and that the settlement should be approved. Accordingly, it is **ORDERED** that the parties comply with the terms of the settlement and that the proceedings in this matter be concluded.

I hereby **FILE** my initial decision with the **BOARD OF PUBLIC UTILITIES** for consideration.

This recommended decision may be adopted, modified or rejected by the **BOARD OF PUBLIC UTILITIES**, which by law is authorized to make a final decision in this matter. If the Board of Public Utilities does not adopt, modify or reject this decision within forty-five (45) days and unless such time limit is otherwise extended, this recommended decision shall become a final decision in accordance with N.J.S.A. 52:14B-10.

December 14, 2006  
DATE

Diana C. Sukovich  
DIANA C. SUKOVICH, ALJ

12/14/06  
DATE

Receipt Acknowledged:

[Signature]  
BOARD OF PUBLIC UTILITIES

Mailed to Parties:

\_\_\_\_\_  
DATE  
lr

\_\_\_\_\_  
OFFICE OF ADMINISTRATIVE LAW

Public Service Electric and Gas Company  
60 Park Plaza, Newark, NJ 07102  
Main Office: (201) 431-1000, Newark, NJ 07102  
Toll Free: 1-800-431-7000



September 28, 2006

Mr. & Mrs. Neorlu N. Tumbah  
16 Lehigh Avenue  
Newark New Jersey 07112-2504

Re: Account # 11 152 274 32

Dear Mr. &amp; Mrs. Tumbah:

This letter is a follow-up to our earlier conversation regarding your residential account at 16 Lehigh Avenue, Newark. On June 7, 2006 you made a \$1500.00 payment which reduced your account balance to \$4535.97. Your monthly June bill was in the amount of \$200.03 and was provided on June 8, leaving the account balance at \$4836.00. On June 30 a credit adjustment in the amount of \$1236.00 was applied to the account to settle this ongoing matter. This adjustment reduced your account balance to \$3600.00.

Since the credit was applied three additional monthly bills have been rendered leaving the account balance as of September 12, at \$3814.95. Your recent \$200.00 payment was processed on September 25, and reduces your account balance to \$3614.95.

As discussed the account balance can be paid in 36 monthly installments of \$100.00 plus your current bills. The deferred payment plan will start with your October 2006 monthly bill, with the payment due by November 1. In addition all future monthly payments are due by the first of each month.

Please review and advise if this was not your understanding of our conversation.

Sincerely,

Edward B. Sullivan  
Manager, Regulatory Services

I hereby agree to the terms of the settlement referred above and to the withdrawal of the petition in the matter with prejudice.

Neorlu Tumbah Date: 10/27/06



State of New Jersey  
OFFICE OF ADMINISTRATIVE LAW  
33 Washington Street  
Newark, New Jersey 07102  
(973) 648-6008

RECEIVED  
CASE MANAGER  
2006 DEC 14 PM 2:54  
BOARD OF PUBLIC UTILITIES  
NEWARK, NJ

NORTH

Date: DEC 13 2006

Re: Initial Decisions for Receipt

Receipt of the following decisions from the Office of Administrative Law (as well as a copy of this form) is acknowledged as of the date indicated below:

OAL Docket No. PUC

Case Name

1190-06

Neorly N. Tumbek

Board of Public Utilities

2 Gateway Center

Newark, New Jersey 07102

Date:

12/14/06

  
Board of Public Utilities